

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15 SCI-06 INT-08

SCEM-02 CEA-02 STR-08 DRC-01 EA-11 IO-14 EUR-25 /235 W

----- 031174

R 181252Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9057

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS PRETORIA 4591

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, SF

SUBJECT: MAJOR CONTRACT FOR SA COAL EXPORTS TO US

1. LOCAL PRESS HAS GIVEN FRONT PAGE COVERAGE TO REPORTED COAL EXPORT CONTRACT SIGNED BETWEEN TRANSVAAL COAL OWNERS ASSOCIATION (TCOA) AND GULF STREAM POWER STATION OF MOBILE, ALABAMA. CONTRACT REPORTEDLY CALLS FOR DELIVERY OF 500,000 TONS IN 1974 (STARTING APRIL), 500,000 TONS IN 1975, AND 1,000,000 TONS IN 1976. TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT ESTIMATED AT R 20-25 (\$30-37) MILLION. COAL TO BE PROVIDED BY TRANSVAAL COLLIERIES AND SHIPPED INITIALLY THROUGH LOURENCO MARQUES. RICHARDS BAY TO BECOME SHIPPING PORT UPON COMPLETION (SCHEDULED 1976).

2. ACCORDING TO TCOA MANAGING DIRECTOR, CONTRACT NOT RPT NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO CURRENT OIL SHORTAGE BUT HAD BEEN UNDER NEGOTIATION FOR SOME TIME. HE ADDED THAT NEWLY GAZETTED SAG REGULATIONS PLACING EXPORT CONTROLS ON COAL, COKE AND ALL INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE FUELS (SEE SEPTTEL) NOT RPT NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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EXPECTED TO AFFECT CONTRACT.

2. COMMENT: IN RECENT YEARS, SA COAL INDUSTRY HAS SIGNED SEVERAL MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTS INCLUDING JAPANESE STEEL INDUSTRY (ESTIMATED 80,000 TONS ANNUALLY) AND GERMAN AND BRUSSELS POWER STATIONS. CONTRACT WITH GULF STREAM REPRESENTS FIRST MAJOR CONTRACT IN US, AND INDUSTRY HOPEFUL THAT IT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY MORE.

SMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005